

### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A stratified press fabric for the press section of a paper machine having a passive sensor system for detecting wear in the press fabric. The lower (non-surface) layer(s) of the stratified press fabric are produced using colored 5 staple fiber batt material. As the surface of the fabric is worn away through use, the colored batt material is exposed to provide a visual indication of the wear. This visual indication allows the customer to readily determine the appropriate time to replace the press fabric.